GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:666
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
SHORTAGE OF LPG
Krishnadas Shri N.N.;Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been shortage of LPG in the country particularly in rural area;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken by the Government to streamline supply;

(c) whether any consideration is being given to appoint new distributors on a large scale keeping in view the increasing number of consumers in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a)to(b) : At present, there is no overall shortage of LPG in the country and LPG supplies to distributors are being made by the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) through indigenous production and imports in accordance with the genuine demand of customers registered with the LPG distributors. However, OMCs have reported a backlog of one to seven days in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Tamil Nadu due to natural calamities, strike by Kerala Petroleum and Gas Workers Union and delay in arrival of bulk LPG.Government has advised OMCs to liquidate the backlog in these States by operating the bottling plants on holidays and during extended hours.

(c)&(d) : Government have given freedom to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to set up LPG distributorships in accordance with their commercial assessment and locations are identified by them on the basis of available refill sale potential for sustaining independent distributorships. However, Government have advised OMCs to draw up Marketing Plans for covering semi-urban and rural areas.OMCs have finalized a common industry marketing plan covering 841 locations for setting up LPG distributorships mainly in rural and urban-rural (semi-urban) locations. The setting up of LPG distributorships is a continuous process and involves identifying of a suitable location, arranging land for setting up of godown and other statutory clearances.